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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE S.N. 09/478,508

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 16 has been amended as follows:

1 16. (Amended) A semiconductor device having a semiconductor chip,

first electrodes formed on said semiconductor chip,

barrier metals formed on said first electrodes and having laminated structures, and

a plurality of second protruded electrodes, which serve as external connection terminals, formed

on said barrier metals, wherein said barrier metals comprising:

a lowermost conductive metal layer laminated on said first electrodes, said lowermost conductive metal layer having a joining property with said first electrodes;

an intermediate conductive metal layer laminated on said lowermost conductive metal layer, said intermediate conductive metal layer being made of nickel (Ni); and

an uppermost conductive metal layer laminated on said one or more intermediate conductive metal layers layer, said uppermost conductive metal layer being made of a material which easily alloys with the material the nickel of said intermediate conductive metal layers layer and which has resistance to oxidation, said uppermost conductive metal layer being made of a metal selected from the group consisting of gold (Au), platinum (Pt), palladium (Pd), silver (Ag) and rhodium (Rh) or of an alloy containing a metal selected from the group consisting of gold (Au), platinum (Pt), palladium (Pd), silver (Ag) and rhodium (Rh).